

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 29, 2008**

**\*NOTE: Electronic copies of the winning bookmarks are available upon request. Please contact Lyndsay Griffin at (307) 777-7180.**

## **Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Announces 14th Annual Bookmark Contest Winners**

Eighteen Wyoming students were selected as winners of Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom's (WAIC) and Wyoming Weed & Pest Council's 14th Annual Bookmark Contest.

In addition to the 18 winners, nine entries were chosen as honorable mentions.

Over 1700 entries were submitted for the contest, which is open to all third, fourth and fifth grade students in Wyoming.

For the past fourteen years, Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom and the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council have hosted the agriculture and natural resource Bookmark Contest. The contest is designed to increase awareness of agriculture, noxious weeds, and natural resources. This year, the contest included a new category topic - predators. This category is sponsored by the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board to raise awareness of predator/prey relationships and the interactions they have with agriculture and wildlife in the west.

To honor our winners, Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom along with the Weed and Pest Council, Wyoming Beef Council, EnCana Oil and Gas USA, (Inc.), and the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board will be holding an Awards Ceremony on May 9, 2008 in Cheyenne for bookmark winners and honorable mentions. Governor Freudenthal, Director of Agriculture John Etchepare, and other elected officials will be present to honor the students in this special ceremony. The students, their families, and their teachers are invited to this prestigious event.

WAIC is a nonprofit organization that was incorporated in 1987 for the purpose of developing an understanding about the importance and the values of agriculture and its role in maintaining and improving the environment, economy, and quality of life. The annual bookmark contest is one of the many programs that WAIC has developed to promote agriculture awareness for Wyoming students.

The winning bookmarks will be distributed across Wyoming at elementary schools, public libraries, businesses, and agriculture expos, as well as at selected national venues. For more information about the contest or to display these bookmarks, please contact Sarka J. White, Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Education Director, at [swhite@state.wy.us](mailto:swhite@state.wy.us) or (307) 777-6618.

### **14th Annual Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Bookmark Winners:**

"Wyoming Wolves: A Balancing Act" - Students Name: Jessen Reckling; Parent's Name: Carlton Reckling; School: Pioneer Park; City: Cheyenne; Grade: 3rd; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Kerry Hood.

"Hay: Healthy for Animals and Yummy" - Students Name: Sierra Loftice; Parent's Name: Robin Loftice and Jonathan Lewis; School: Encampment School; City: Encampment; Grade: 3rd; Teachers Name: Mrs. Pam Kraft

"Beef has the Protein you Need" - Students Name: Cole Inghram; Parent's Name: Travis and Tina Inghram; School: Sundance Elementary; City: Sundance; Grade: 4th; Teacher's Name: Ms. Diane Johannesen.

"Got Milk, Got Corn, Got Beef" - Students Name: Moriah Grider; Parent's Name: Mindy Grider; School: West Elementary School; City: Wheatland; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Mary Skoog.

"One predator, the Wolf, I will name. They kill Farmer's cattle and even wild game." - Students Name: Hailey Tolman; Parent's Name: Carol and Dan Tolman; School: Pioneer Park Elementary School; City: Cheyenne; Grade 3rd; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Kerry Hood.

"Protect your plants from the "big jack attack" - Students Name: Teisia Claypoole; Parent's Name: Mary Russel; School: Encampment Elementary School; City: Encampment; Grade 3rd; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Pam Kraft.

"Sheep help you go to sleep, so does their warm wool" - Students Name: Jesi May Sanches; Parent's Name: Stephanie Sanches; School: Ft. Bridger Elementary School; City: Ft. Bridger; Grade 4th; Teacher's Name: Ms. Joni Hutchinson.

"Wyoming Wheat is what we eat" - Students Name: Mark Menghini; Parent's Name: Mike Menghini; School: Hobbs Elementary School; City: Cheyenne; Grade 4th; Teacher's Name: Mr. Marty Ellis.

"Ranching is good for the environment" - Students Name: Shaylynn Buchanan; Parent's Name: Shannon and Robert Buchanan; School: West Elementary School; City: Wheatland; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. May Skoog.

"Egg man saves the day" - Students Name: Liam Vincent; Parent's Name: Jeffery Vincent; School: Rendevous School; City: Riverton; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Mr. Reiter.

"Wyoming is farming" - Students Name: Nick Djakovich; Parent's Name: Brenda True; School: West Elementary School; City: Wheatland; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Catchpole.

"Farming is an Honor" - Students Name: Alexis Foneseca; Parent's Name: Stacie Foneseca; School: Douglas Intermediate School; City: Douglas; Grade 4th; Teacher's Name: Ms. Sue McKee.

"Wyoming Rocks, Coal" - Students Name: Caleb Anderson; Parent's Name: Dwyane and Charisse Anderson; School: Albin Elementary School; City: Albin; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Ms. Christina Nusbaum.

"Conserve our soil, It gets things going and growing" - Students Name: Makayla Wilder; Parent's Name: Robert and Kaye Wilder; School: Encampment Elementary School; City: Encampment; Grade 3rd; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Pam Kraft.

"Goats save the day!" - Students Name: Shalee Sandbak; Parent's Name: Jo Weaver; School: Farson-Eden Elementary School; City: Farson; Grade 5th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Jennifer Applequist.

"Welcome to the Winds of Wyoming" - Students Name: Ryan Kath; Parent's Name: Grant Kath; School: Trail Elementary School; City: Torrington; Grade 4th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Cindy McKee.

"Purge that Leafy Spurge" - Students Name: Justin Bonner; Parent's Name: Cassie and Zach Reid; School: Encampment School; City: Encampment; Grade 3rd; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Pam Kraft.

"Weeds, Weeds horrible weeds" - Students Name: Hannah Ramsey; Parent's Name: Scott and Deb Ramsey; School: Douglas Intermediate School; City: Douglas; Grade 4th; Teacher's Name: Mrs. Shelly Falkenburg.

**Honorable Mentions:**

Nicole Nicklas of Moose, WY  
Shania Sanderson of Buffalo, WY  
Mollie Beck of Encampment, WY  
Matthew Nelson of Farson-Eden, WY  
Konnar Knotwell of Encampment, WY  
Emily Morgan of Encampment, WY  
Bryce Wittrock of Douglas, WY  
Anastasia White of Cheyenne, WY  
Briley James of Wheatland, WY

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